At Inspira Health Network, we don’t pursue excellence for the acclaim and gleaming crystal awards. Awards mean little if we are not able deliver on our promise of a health care experience that is built upon a foundation of patient safety, clinical excellence and outstanding service. If we don’t exceed your expectations, we have fallen short.

So why is it that we frequently talk about quality awards and honors that we have earned? There are two main reasons. First, the 5,600 members of the Inspira team and the 1,100 members of our medical staffs deserve recognition for the outstanding work they do every day. Second, we hope that recognition by independent organizations, who use objective criteria to assess clinical quality and patient satisfaction, brings you an additional level of confidence and comfort when you choose Inspira for your health care needs.

It is with these thoughts in mind, that I share the following awards and recognitions with you. Each of these awards is a direct reflection of the skill, dedication and compassion of our physicians, clinical staff and support teams. In the fall of 2016 and again in the spring of 2017, all three Inspira hospitals earned A’s on the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade report. This widely respected national rating is based on a robust list of quality indicators developed by leading experts in patient safety and clinical excellence. In addition, Inspira Medical Center Woodbury was named one of seven Top Hospitals in New Jersey by the Leapfrog Group. This recognition showcases Inspira Woodbury’s commitment to patient safety and quality. We eagerly await the release of the Fall 2017 Hospital Safety Grade report, which is expected later this month.

At Inspira Medical Center Elmer, we recently celebrated our second Women’s Choice Award® for being one of America’s best hospitals for orthopedics. By earning this recognition, Inspira Elmer is part an elite group of hospitals committed to a global mission to empower individuals to make informed health care choices. To receive this honor, we had to excel in three areas: providing comprehensive orthopedic services; earning outstanding results on a key national patient satisfaction survey; and achieving low rates of surgical complications and infections.

Inspiria Elmer also distinguished itself by being the first hospital in New Jersey to receive the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses’ PRISM Award® for exceptional nursing practices, leadership, and outcomes. The three-year recognition was presented to Elmer’s 2 East Medical-Surgical Unit in 2016, and to date, only 22 other medical surgical units in the United States have received a PRISM Award®.

I’ll also take this opportunity to share news about the recognition we received in the most recent U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals listing. All three Inspira hospitals earned High Performing status for the care of patients with heart failure. We were also designated as High Performing for the care of patients in the following areas.

Inspiria Elmer: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and Total Knee Replacement

Inspiria Vineland: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Total Knee Replacement and Colon Cancer

Since 2006, our critical care units have been honored with numerous Beacon Awards for Excellence. Presented by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, the Beacon recognizes caregivers in exemplary units whose consistent and systematic approach to evidenced-based care optimizes patient outcomes and results in a better hospital experience for our patients. Currently all eight of the ICUs and Step-down units at Inspira Vineland and Elmer are proud Beacon Award units.

Dating back to 2008, Inspira Medical Centers Elmer and Vineland, and Inspira Health Center Bridgeton have been designated as Magnet® facilities for quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovations in professional nursing practice. The team at Inspira Medical Center Woodbury has set its sights on becoming a Magnet® facility and has made significant progress on their Magnet journey. Inspira is one of only two health systems in South Jersey whose hospitals have earned Magnet® status. Fewer than 10 percent of hospitals in the United States are Magnet® facilities.

To receive each of these awards and recognitions, we are required to demonstrate our commitment to excellence through an objective measurement process. And I believe each award shines a light on a group of very special people—the Inspira team of employees, doctors and volunteers who work hard every day to keep our promise, the Inspira promise, to you.